

Standard Form 32
Prescribed by General Services
Administration, Nov. 1949 Edition

GENERAL PROVISIONS

(Supply Contract)

1. DEFINITIONS

As used throughout this contract, the following terms shall have the meanings set forth below:

- (a) The term "Secretary" means the Secretary, the Under Secretary, or any Assistant Secretary of the Department, and the head or any assistant head of the executive agency; and the term "his duly authorized representative" means any person or persons or board (other than the Contracting Officer) authorized to act for the Secretary.
- (b) The term "Contracting Officer" means the person executing this contract on behalf of the Government, and any other officer or civilian employee who is a properly designated Contracting Officer; and the term includes, except as otherwise provided in this contract, the authorized representative of a Contracting Officer acting within the limits of his authority.
- (c) Except as otherwise provided in this contract, the term "subcontracts" includes purchase orders under this contract.

2. CHANGES

The Contracting Officer may at any time, by a written order, and without notice to the sureties, make changes, within the general scope of this contract, in any one or more of the following: (i) drawings, designs, or specifications, where the supplies to be furnished are to be specially manufactured for the Government in accordance therewith; (ii) method of shipment or packing; and (iii) place of delivery. If any such change causes an increase or decrease in the cost of, or the time required for, performance of this contract, an equitable adjustment shall be made in the contract price or delivery schedule, or both, and the contract shall be modified in writing accordingly. Any claim by the Contractor for adjustment under this clause must be asserted within 30 days from the date of receipt by the Contractor of the notification of change: *Provided, however*, That the Contracting Officer, if he decides that the facts justify such action, may receive and act upon any such claim asserted at any time prior to final payment under this contract. Failure to agree to any adjustment shall be a dispute concerning a question of fact within the meaning of the clause of this contract entitled "Disputes." However, nothing in this clause shall excuse the Contractor from proceeding with the contract as changed.

3. EXTRAS

Except as otherwise provided in this contract, no payment for extras shall be made unless such extras and the price therefor have been authorized in writing by the Contracting Officer.

4. VARIATION IN QUANTITY

No variation in the quantity of any item called for by this contract will be accepted unless such variation has been caused by conditions of loading, shipping, or packing, or allowances in manufacturing processes, and then only to the extent, if any, specified elsewhere in this contract.

5. INSPECTION

(a) All supplies (which term throughout this clause includes without limitation raw materials, components, intermediate assemblies, and end products) shall be subject to inspection and test by the Government, to the extent practicable at all times and places including the period of manufacture, and in any event prior to final acceptance.

(b) In case any supplies or lots of supplies are defective in material or workmanship or otherwise not in conformity with the requirements of this contract, the Government shall have the right either to reject them (with or without instructions as to their disposition) or to require their correction. Supplies or lots of supplies which have been rejected or required to be corrected shall be removed or corrected in place, as requested by the Contracting Officer, by and at the expense of the Contractor promptly after notice, and shall not again be tendered for acceptance unless the former tender and either the rejection or requirement of correction is disclosed. If the Contractor fails promptly to remove such supplies or lots of supplies, when requested by the Contracting Officer, and to proceed promptly with the replacement or correction thereof, the Government either (i) may by contract or otherwise replace or correct such supplies and charge to the Contractor the cost occasioned the Government thereby, or (ii) may terminate this contract for default as provided in the clause of this contract entitled "Default." Unless the Contractor elects to correct or replace the supplies which the Government has a right to reject and is able to make such correction or replacement within the required delivery schedule, the Contracting Officer may require the delivery of such supplies at a reduction in price which is equitable under the circumstances. Failure to agree to such reduction of price shall be a dispute concerning a question of fact within the meaning of the clause of this contract entitled "Disputes."

(c) If any inspection or test is made by the Government on the premises of the Contractor or a subcontractor, the Contractor without additional charge shall provide all reasonable facilities and assistance for the safety and convenience of the Government inspectors in the performance of their duties. If Government inspection or test is made at a point other than the premises of the Contractor or a subcontractor, it shall be at the expense of the Government: *Provided*, That in case of rejection the Government shall not be liable for any reduction in value of samples used in connection with such inspection or test. All inspections and tests by the Government shall be performed in such a manner as not to unduly delay the work. The Government reserves the right to charge to the Contractor any additional cost of Government inspection and test when supplies are not ready at the time such inspection and test is requested by the Contractor. Final acceptance or rejection of the supplies shall be made as promptly as practicable after delivery, except as otherwise provided in this contract; but failure to inspect and accept or reject supplies shall neither relieve the Contractor from responsibility for such supplies as are not in accordance with the contract requirements nor impose liability on the Government therefor.

(d) The inspection and test by the Government of any supplies or lots thereof does not relieve the Contractor from any responsibility regarding defects or other failures to meet the contract requirements which may be discovered prior to final acceptance. Except as otherwise provided in this contract, final acceptance shall be conclusive except as regards latent defects, fraud, or such gross mistakes as amount to fraud.

(e) The Contractor shall provide and maintain an inspection system acceptable to the Government covering the supplies hereunder. Records of all inspection work by the Contractor shall be kept complete and available to the Government during the performance of this contract and for such longer period as may be specified elsewhere in this contract.

6. RESPONSIBILITY FOR SUPPLIES

Except as otherwise provided in this contract, (i) the Contractor shall be responsible for the supplies covered by this contract until they are delivered at the designated

delivery point, regardless of the point of inspection; and (ii) the Contractor shall bear all risks as to rejected supplies after notice of rejection.

7. PAYMENTS

The Contractor shall be paid, upon the submission of properly certified invoices or vouchers, the prices stipulated herein for supplies delivered and accepted or services rendered and accepted, less deductions, if any, as herein provided. Unless otherwise specified, payment will be made on partial deliveries accepted by the Government when the amount due on such deliveries so warrants; or, when requested by the Contractor, payment for accepted partial deliveries shall be made whenever such payment would equal or exceed either \$1,000 or 50 percent of the total amount of this contract.

8. ASSIGNMENT OF CLAIMS

(a) Pursuant to the provisions of the Assignment of Claims Act of 1940 (31 U. S. Code 203, 41 U. S. Code 15), if this contract provides for payments aggregating \$1,000 or more, claims for moneys due or to become due the Contractor from the Government under this contract may be assigned to a bank, trust company, or other financing institution, including any Federal lending agency, and may thereafter be further assigned and reassigned to any such institution. Any such assignment or reassignment shall cover all amounts payable under this contract and not already paid, and shall not be made to more than one party, except that any such assignment or reassignment may be made to one party as agent or trustee for two or more parties participating in such financing. Notwithstanding any provision of this contract, payment to an assignee of any claim under this contract shall not be subject to reduction or set-off for any indebtedness of the Contractor to the Government arising independently of this contract. *(The preceding sentence applies only if this contract is with a military department.)*

(b) In no event shall copies of this contract or of any plans, specifications, or other similar documents relating to work under this contract, if marked "Top Secret," "Secret," "Confidential," or "Restricted," be furnished to any assignee of any claim arising under this contract or to any other person not entitled to receive the same: *Provided*, That a copy of any part or all of this contract so marked may be furnished, or any information contained therein may be disclosed, to such assignee upon the prior written authorization of the Contracting Officer.

9. ADDITIONAL BOND SECURITY

If any surety upon any bond furnished in connection with this contract becomes unacceptable to the Government, or if any such surety fails to furnish reports as to his financial condition from time to time as requested by the Government, the Contractor shall promptly furnish such additional security as may be required from time to time to protect the interests of the Government and of persons supplying labor or materials in the prosecution of the work contemplated by this contract.

10. FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL TAXES

(a) *Definitions.*—As used throughout this clause, the following terms shall have the meanings set forth below:

(i) The term "direct tax" means any tax or duty directly applicable to the completed supplies or services covered by this contract, or any other tax or duty from which the Contractor or this transaction is exempt. It includes any tax or duty directly applicable to the importation, production, processing, manufacture, construction, sale, or use of such supplies or services; it also includes any tax levied on, with respect to, or measured by sales, receipts from sales, or use of the supplies or services covered by this contract. The term does not include transportation taxes, unemployment compensation taxes, social security taxes, income taxes, excess-profits taxes, capital stock taxes, property taxes, and such other taxes as are not within the definition of the

term "direct tax" as set forth above in this paragraph.

(ii) The term "contract date" means the effective date of this contract if it is a negotiated contract, or the opening of bids if it is a contract entered into as a result of formal advertising.

(b) *Federal Taxes.*—Except as may be otherwise provided in this contract, the contract price includes all applicable Federal taxes in effect on the contract date.

(c) *State or Local Taxes.*—Except as may be otherwise provided in this contract, the contract price does not include any State or local direct tax in effect on the contract date.

(d) *Evidence of Exemption.*—The Government agrees, upon request of the Contractor, to furnish a tax exemption certificate or other similar evidence of exemption with respect to any direct tax not included in the contract price pursuant to this clause; and the Contractor agrees, in the event of the refusal of the applicable taxing authority to accept such evidence of exemption, (i) promptly to notify the Contracting Officer of such refusal, (ii) to cause the tax in question to be paid in such manner as to preserve all rights to refund thereof, and (iii) if so directed by the Contracting Officer, to take all necessary action, in cooperation with and for the benefit of the Government, to secure a refund of such tax (in which event the Government agrees to reimburse the Contractor for any and all reasonable expenses incurred at its direction).

(e) *Price Adjustment.*—If, after the contract date, the Federal Government or any State or local government either (i) imposes or increases (or removes an exemption with respect to) any direct tax, or any tax directly applicable to the materials or components used in the manufacture or furnishing of the completed supplies or services covered by this contract, or (ii) refuses to accept the evidence of exemption, furnished under paragraph (d) hereof, with respect to any direct tax excluded from the contract price, and if under either (i) or (ii) the Contractor is obliged to and does pay or bear the burden of any such tax (and does not secure a refund thereof), the contract price shall be correspondingly increased. If, after the contract date, the Contractor is relieved in whole or in part from the payment or the burden of any direct tax included in the contract price, or any tax directly applicable to the materials or components used in the manufacture or furnishing of the completed supplies or services covered by this contract, the Contractor agrees promptly to notify the Contracting Officer of such relief, and the contract price shall be correspondingly decreased or the amount of such relief paid over to the Government. Invoices or vouchers covering any increase or decrease in contract price pursuant to the provisions of this paragraph shall state the amount thereof, as a separate added or deducted item, and shall identify the particular tax imposed, increased, eliminated, or decreased.

(f) *Refund or Drawback.*—If any tax or duty has been included in the contract price or the price as adjusted under paragraph (e) of this clause, and if the Contractor is entitled to a refund or drawback by reason of the export or re-export of supplies covered by this contract, or of materials or components used in the manufacture or furnishing of the completed supplies or services covered by this contract, the Contractor agrees that he will promptly notify the Contracting Officer thereof and that the amount of any such refund or drawback obtained will be paid over to the Government or credited against amounts due from the Government under this contract: *Provided, however*, That the Contractor shall not be required to apply for such refund or drawback unless so requested by the Contracting Officer.

11. DEFAULT

(a) The Government may, subject to the provisions of paragraph (b) below, by written Notice of Default to the

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Contractor terminate the whole or any part of this contract in any one of the following circumstances:

(i) if the Contractor fails to make delivery of the supplies or to perform the services within the time specified herein or any extension thereof; or

(ii) if the Contractor fails to perform any of the other provisions of this contract, or so fails to make progress as to endanger performance of this contract in accordance with its terms, and in either of these two circumstances does not cure such failure within a period of 10 days (or such longer period as the Contracting Officer may authorize in writing) after receipt of notice from the Contracting Officer specifying such failure.

(b) The Contractor shall not be liable for any excess costs if any failure to perform the contract arises out of causes beyond the control and without the fault or negligence of the Contractor. Such causes include, but are not restricted to, acts of God or of the public enemy, acts of the Government, fires, floods, epidemics, quarantine restrictions, strikes, freight embargoes, unusually severe weather, and defaults of subcontractors due to any of such causes unless the Contracting Officer shall determine that the supplies or services to be furnished by the subcontractor were obtainable from other sources in sufficient time to permit the Contractor to meet the required delivery schedule.

(c) In the event the Government terminates this contract in whole or in part as provided in paragraph (a) of this clause, the Government may procure, upon such terms and in such manner as the Contracting Officer may deem appropriate, supplies or services similar to those so terminated, and the Contractor shall be liable to the Government for any excess costs for such similar supplies or services, *Provided*, That the Contractor shall continue the performance of this contract to the extent not terminated under the provisions of this clause.

(d) If this contract is terminated as provided in paragraph (a) of this clause, the Government, in addition to any other rights provided in this clause, may require the Contractor to transfer title and deliver to the Government, in the manner and to the extent directed by the Contracting Officer, (i) any completed supplies, and (ii) such partially completed supplies and materials, parts, tools, dies, jigs, fixtures, plans, drawings, information, and contract rights (hereinafter called "manufacturing materials") as the Contractor has specifically produced or specifically acquired for the performance of such part of this contract as has been terminated; and the Contractor shall, upon direction of the Contracting Officer, protect and preserve property in possession of the Contractor in which the Government has an interest. The Government shall pay to the Contractor the contract price for completed supplies delivered to and accepted by the Government, and the amount agreed upon by the Contractor and the Contracting Officer for manufacturing materials delivered to and accepted by the Government and for the protection and preservation of property. Failure to agree shall be a dispute concerning a question of fact within the meaning of the clause of this contract entitled "Disputes."

(e) If, after notice of termination of this contract under the provisions of paragraph (a) of this clause, it is determined that the failure to perform this contract is due to causes beyond the control and without the fault or negligence of the Contractor pursuant to the provisions of paragraph (b) of this clause, such Notice of Default shall be deemed to have been issued pursuant to the clause of this contract entitled "Termination for Convenience of the Government," and the rights and obligations of the parties hereto shall in such event be governed by such clause. (*Except as otherwise provided in this contract, this paragraph (e) applies only if this contract is with a military department.*)

(f) The rights and remedies of the Government provided in this clause shall not be exclusive and are in addition to any other rights and remedies provided by law or under this contract.

12. DISPUTES

Except as otherwise provided in this contract, any dispute concerning a question of fact arising under this contract which is not disposed of by agreement shall be decided by the Contracting Officer, who shall reduce his decision to writing and mail or otherwise furnish a copy thereof to the Contractor. Within 30 days from the date of receipt of such copy, the Contractor may appeal by mailing or otherwise furnishing to the Contracting Officer a written appeal addressed to the Secretary, and the decision of the Secretary or his duly authorized representative for the hearing of such appeals shall be final and conclusive: *Provided*, That if no such appeal is taken, the decision of the Contracting Officer shall be final and conclusive. In connection with any appeal proceeding under this clause, the Contractor shall be afforded an opportunity to be heard and to offer evidence in support of its appeal. Pending final decision of a dispute hereunder, the Contractor shall proceed diligently with the performance of the contract and in accordance with the Contracting Officer's decision.

13. NOTICE AND ASSISTANCE REGARDING PATENT INFRINGEMENT

(a) The Contractor agrees to report to the Contracting Officer, promptly and in reasonable written detail, each claim of patent infringement based on the performance of this contract and asserted against it, or against any of its subcontractors if it has notice thereof.

(b) In the event of litigation against the Government on account of any claim of infringement arising out of the performance of this contract or out of the use of any supplies furnished or construction work performed hereunder, the Contractor agrees that it will furnish to the Government, upon request, all evidence and information in its possession pertaining to the defense of such litigation. Such information shall be furnished at the expense of the Government except in those cases in which the Contractor has agreed to indemnify the Government against the claim being asserted.

14. BUY AMERICAN ACT

The Contractor agrees that there will be delivered under this contract only such unmanufactured articles, materials, and supplies (which term "articles, materials, and supplies" is hereinafter referred to in this clause as "supplies") as have been mined or produced in the United States, and only such manufactured supplies as have been manufactured in the United States substantially all from supplies mined, produced, or manufactured, as the case may be, in the United States. Pursuant to the Buy American Act (41 U. S. Code 10a-c), the foregoing provision shall not apply (i) with respect to supplies excepted by the Secretary from the application of that Act, (ii) with respect to supplies for use outside the United States, (iii) with respect to the supplies to be delivered under this contract which are of a class or kind determined by the Secretary or his duly authorized representative not to be mined, produced, or manufactured, as the case may be, in the United States in sufficient and reasonably available commercial quantities and of a satisfactory quality, or (iv) with respect to such supplies, from which the supplies to be delivered under this contract are manufactured, as are of a class or kind determined by the Secretary or his duly authorized representative not to be mined, produced, or manufactured, as the case may be, in the United States in sufficient and reasonably available commercial quantities and of a satisfactory quality, provided that this exception (iv) shall not permit delivery of supplies manufactured outside the United States if such supplies are manufactured in the United States in sufficient and reasonably available commercial quantities and of a satisfactory quality.

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15. CONVICTION

In connection with the performance of work under this contract, the Contractor agrees not to employ any person undergoing sentence of imprisonment at hard labor.

16. EIGHT-HOUR LAW OF 1912

This contract, to the extent that it is of a character specified in the Eight-Hour Law of 1912 as amended (40 U. S. Code 324-326) and is not covered by the Walsh-Healey Public Contracts Act (41 U. S. Code 35-45), is subject to the following provisions and exceptions of said Eight-Hour Law of 1912 as amended, and to all other provisions and exceptions of said Law:

No laborer or mechanic doing any part of the work contemplated by this contract, in the employ of the Contractor or any subcontractor contracting for any part of the said work, shall be required or permitted to work more than eight hours in any one calendar day upon such work, except upon the condition that compensation is paid to such laborer or mechanic in accordance with the provisions of this clause. The wages of every such laborer and mechanic employed by the Contractor or any subcontractor engaged in the performance of this contract shall be computed on a basic day rate of eight hours per day; and work in excess of eight hours per day is permitted only upon the condition that every such laborer and mechanic shall be compensated for all hours worked in excess of eight hours per day at not less than one and one-half times the basic rate of pay. For each violation of the requirements of this clause a penalty of five dollars shall be imposed upon the Contractor for each such laborer or mechanic for every calendar day in which such employee is required or permitted to labor more than eight hours upon said work without receiving compensation computed in accordance with this clause; and all penalties thus imposed shall be withheld for the use and benefit of the Government.

17. WALSH-HEALEY PUBLIC CONTRACTS ACT

If this contract is for the manufacture or furnishing of materials, supplies, articles, or equipment in an amount

which exceeds or may exceed \$10,000 and is otherwise subject to the Walsh-Healey Public Contracts Act as amended (41 U. S. Code 35-45), there are hereby incorporated by reference all representations and stipulations required by said Act and regulations issued thereunder by the Secretary of Labor, such representations and stipulations being subject to all applicable rulings and interpretations of the Secretary of Labor which are now or may hereafter be in effect.

18. NONDISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT

In connection with the performance of work under this contract, the Contractor agrees not to discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, creed, color, or national origin; and further agrees to insert the foregoing provision in all subcontracts hereunder except subcontracts for standard commercial supplies or for raw materials.

19. OFFICIALS NOT TO BENEFIT

No member of or delegate to Congress, or resident commissioner, shall be admitted to any share or part of this contract, or to any benefit that may arise therefrom; but this provision shall not be construed to extend to this contract if made with a corporation for its general benefit.

20. COVENANT AGAINST CONTINGENT FEES

The Contractor warrants that no person or selling agency has been employed or retained to solicit or secure this contract upon an agreement or understanding for a commission, percentage, brokerage, or contingent fee, excepting bona fide employees or bona fide established commercial or selling agencies maintained by the Contractor for the purpose of securing business. For breach or violation of this warranty the Government shall have the right to annul this contract without liability or in its discretion to deduct from the contract price or consideration the full amount of such commission, percentage, brokerage, or contingent fee.

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